AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method executed by a server for <u>enabling an expert to</u> <u>provide</u> providing answers <s>on one or more topics from a set of experts on each topic</s> to questions received by the server from users in communication with <u>a</u> client <u>interface</u> interfaces, the client interface being identified to the users as a forum on a predetermined subject matter of the forum, the forum enabling users to direct questions to be answered to one or more of a plurality of experts represented as serving the forum, and the server being in communication with the client <u>interface</u> interfaces, and the method comprising <u>the steps of:</u>[[;]]

receiving at the server <u>at least</u> a <u>first</u> question <u>directed to a first expert in the</u> <u>plurality of experts;</u>

<u>receiving at the server at least a second question representing</u> based on the receipt of a request by one of (a) <u>a question directed to the plurality of experts serving the</u> <u>forum</u> one of the users to post the question and to select an expert to whom to route the question, or (b) <u>a question referred to the first expert by at least another expert in the</u> <u>plurality of experts</u> one of the users to post the question and to select the set of experts to whom to route the question, (c) one of the users to post the question without a selection of the expert to whom to direct the question and (d) one of the experts to post the question to another one of the experts for peer review;

receiving at the server a request by <u>the first expert</u> one of the experts to access a personal expert interface, the personal expert interface being <u>uniquely associated with</u> unique to the <u>first</u> expert;

the server <u>providing</u> grouping the question with other questions for the expert to answer, the groupings of questions being accessible to the <u>first</u> expert <u>with access to the at</u> <u>least one first question and the at least one second question</u> upon generation of the personal expert interface<u>, wherein the personal expert interface presents the at least one first</u> <u>question in a first grouping of questions directed to the first expert, and presents the at least</u> <u>one second question in a second grouping of questions directed either to the plurality of</u>

experts serving the forum, or directed to the first expert by the at least other expert in the
plurality of experts [[;]]

~~receiving at the server a command from the expert in response to the question;~~
~~and~~

~~the server executing the command from the expert~~

2. - 6. (canceled)

7. (currently amended) The method of claim <u>176</u> [[1]] wherein <u>the received</u>
~~receiving a~~ command <u>further</u> includes <u>a second instruction</u> ~~receiving a command~~ to post an
answer to the question ~~and to refer the question to another one of the experts at~~
~~substantially the same time~~.

8. (currently amended) The method of claim 1<u>, further comprising the steps of:</u>
<u>the server providing the first expert upon generation of the personal expert interface with</u>
<u>access to an answer to at least one third question, the answer to the at least one third question having</u>
<u>been previously provided by the first expert and posted by the server to the forum via the client</u>
<u>interface of the forum, wherein the server causes the personal expert interface to present the answer</u>
<u>to the at least one third question to the first expert in a third grouping of answers to questions</u>
<u>previously answered by the expert; and</u>
the server ~~wherein~~ receiving a <u>second</u> command <u>from the first expert via the</u>
<u>personal expert interface</u> ~~includes receiving a command~~ to edit <u>the</u> ~~an~~ answer to <u>the at least</u>
<u>one third question</u> ~~a previous question~~.

9. - 97. (canceled).

98. (currently amended) A system executed by a server for providing a
plurality of answers from <u>an expert</u> ~~a plurality of experts~~ to a plurality of questions posed
by a plurality of users, the users communicating with the server via a plurality of client
interfaces, each of the client interfaces being identified to the users as a forum on a

predetermined subject matter <u>of the forum</u> and as presenting <u>the expert as an</u> expert ~~experts~~ on the subject matter, the system comprising:

a question receiving component configured to receive <u>one of the plurality of questions</u> at the server<u>, the one question being directed to the expert</u> ~~a question~~ from a user via ~~two~~ <u>one</u> of the client interfaces;

a routing component configured to display the <u>received</u> question with other questions <u>directed to</u> ~~for~~ the expert on a personal expert interface, wherein the personal expert interface is <u>uniquely associated with</u> ~~unique to~~ the expert ~~and includes the question grouped as one of a set of questions, the groupings of questions being accessible to the expert upon generation of the personal expert interface;~~

~~a forum component configured to receive an answer to one question from the group of questions, as the question posted by the expert;~~

a command receiving and executing component configured to receive <u>one or more commands</u> ~~a command~~ from the expert <u>together with an answer to the</u> ~~in response to the~~ question<u>,</u> and to post <u>the</u> ~~an~~ answer to the question<u>, wherein the one or more commands provide that the answer to the question will be posted</u> in ~~at least one of~~ <u>two or more of</u> the plurality of <u>forums</u> ~~fora; and~~

~~an executing component configured to execute the command from the expert.~~

99. - 110. (canceled)

111. (currently amended) The system of claim 98 wherein the command receiving component is further configured to post the answer to one of (a) <u>a</u> ~~the~~ source forum <u>of the one client interface</u> from which the <u>user directed the</u> question <u>and</u> ~~(b)~~ at least one of the plurality of <u>forums</u> ~~fora~~ other than the source forum, ~~(c) a plurality of fora including the source forum, (d)~~ <u>(b)</u> a plurality of <u>forums</u> ~~fora~~ excluding the source forum <u>and</u> <u>or (c)</u> ~~(e) all of the~~ <u>forums</u> ~~fora~~ <u>for each of the plurality of client interfaces</u>.

112. (currently amended) The ~~method~~ system of claim 111 wherein when the question is posted to a plurality of <u>forums</u> ~~fora~~, the posting occurs in at least two <u>forums</u> ~~fora~~ at substantially the same time.

113., 114. (canceled).

115. (currently amended) The <u>system</u> ~~method~~ of claim <u>98</u> [[114]] wherein <u>the expert is presented in</u> ~~at least~~ one of the <u>forums</u> ~~fora~~ <u>as one of a plurality of experts comprising a</u> ~~presents a plurality of experts as a panel, and the expert being one of the~~ panel of experts, <u>wherein the question is received by the server as directed by one of the plurality of users from the client interface of the one forum, and wherein said routing component is configured to route the received question, according to an instruction of the one user, either to</u> ~~the method further comprising each of the questions being routed to the expert based on one of a plurality of mechanisms of~~ (a) ~~one of the users posting the question via the forum that includes the panel and selecting~~ the expert <u>alone, or to</u> ~~whom to route the question~~ (b) ~~one of the users posting the question via the forum that includes the panel and selecting~~ <u>each of the plurality of experts in</u> the panel of experts ~~to whom to route the question and (c) one of the experts receiving the question on the personal expert interface and routing the question to another one of the experts for peer review~~.

116. - 117. (canceled).

118. (currently amended) The <u>system</u> ~~method~~ of claim <u>98</u> ~~115~~ wherein <u>said question receiving component is configured to receive</u> at least two ~~of the~~ questions <u>directed</u> ~~are further routed~~ to the expert <u>via client interfaces identified with</u> ~~from~~ at least two different <u>forums</u> ~~fora~~.

119. - 130. (canceled)

131. (currently amended) The method of claim <u>190</u> [[129]] wherein the command further <u>indicates</u> ~~comprises providing~~ permission <u>from the one expert</u> to post the answer to the <u>one or more of the plurality of forums</u> ~~public~~ upon <u>receipt</u> ~~posting to the public~~ of an additional answer from the <u>other</u> expert to whom the answer was referred.

132. - 140. (canceled)

141. (currently amended) A personal expert interface in communication with a server<u>, the personal expert interface enabling</u> ~~for providing~~ a plurality of users <u>and a plurality of experts to communicate a plurality of questions to</u> ~~with ommunication with~~ a first expert <u>in the plurality of experts via the server</u> ~~one of a plurality of experts,~~ in order to obtain answers <u>from the first expert,</u> ~~to a plurality of questions,~~ the personal expert interface comprising :

~~an interface~~ <u>a web page uniquely associated with</u> ~~unique to~~ the <u>first</u> expert<u>, the web page presents a plurality of groupings of questions to be answered to the first expert, wherein the plurality of groups presented to the first expert includes a first group of questions directed to the expert via the server by the plurality of users, and a second group of questions directed to the first expert by others of the plurality of experts on referral, the referred questions having previously been directed to the other experts by ones of the plurality of users,</u>

<u>wherein the web page include a selectable command for posting an answer to at least one of the questions selected from at least one of the plurality of groupings, the at least one question being posted on one or more of a plurality of other web page accessible to the plurality of users.</u>

~~each of the questions being routed to the personal expert interface based on one of a routing request from one of the users and a routing request from another one of the experts and at least one of the questions being routed based on a request from another one of experts; and~~

~~the questions being presented to the expert for the expert to answer.~~

142. (canceled)

143. (currently amended) The personal expert interface of claim <u>141</u> [[142]] wherein <u>each of the plurality of other web pages accessible to the plurality of users is</u> <u>identified to the users as a forum on a predetermined subject matter of the forum, the first</u> <u>expert being identified on at least one of the other web pages as an expert on the</u> <u>predetermined subject matter of the forum, and the selectable command providing an</u> <u>instruction to post the answer to one of (a) a source forum of the one client interface from</u> <u>which the one user directed the question, (b) at least one one of the plurality of forums</u> <u>other than the source forum, (c) a plurality of forums including the source forum, (d) a</u> <u>plurality of forums excluding the source forum and (e) a forum of each of the plurality of</u> <u>client interfaces.</u> ~~the question derives from a source web page as one of the web pages and~~ ~~the option further comprises posting the answer to the question to one of (a) the source a~~ <u>source</u> ~~web page, (b) one of the plurality of web pages other than the source web page, (c)~~ ~~a plurality of web pages including the source web page, (d) a plurality of web pages~~ ~~excluding the source web page and (e) all of the web pages.~~

144. (previously presented) The personal expert interface of claim 143 wherein when the answer is posted to a plurality of web pages, the posting occurs in at least two web pages at substantially the same time.

145. (canceled).

146. (currently amended) The personal expert interface of claim 141 wherein at least one <u>question from the second group</u> of the questions is ~~further~~ presented to the <u>one</u> expert for an initial answer.

147. (currently amended) The personal expert interface of claim 141 wherein at least one question from the second group of the questions is referred ~~further presented~~ to the one expert by another one of the plurality of experts, the referred question provided by the other expert together with an answer to the question, the referral being made by the other expert to obtain ~~for~~ a supplemental answer to the question from the one expert as a peer review of the answer provided by the other expert.

148.- 154. (canceled).

155. (currently amended) The method of claim 190 [[149]] wherein ~~the server receives an further response~~ command further includes ~~of adding~~ a private message ~~to the question~~ for ~~routing to~~ the other expert ~~to whom the question is referred~~.

156. - 169. (canceled)

170. (currently amended) The method of claim 155 [[169]] wherein the private message accompanies the answer ~~submitted in the first response and the message further~~ includes instructions to the other expert ~~to whom the question is referred~~ to post ~~publish~~ the answer ~~of the referring expert~~ upon review of the question by the other expert ~~to whom the question is referred~~.

171. (currently amended) The method of claim 170 further comprising step of the server receiving an instruction from the other expert ~~to whom the question is referred~~ to post the first answer ~~from the referring expert to the public~~.

172. - 175. (canceled).

176. (currently amended) A method executed by a server of presenting ~~debating answers to~~ questions of a predetermined subject matter that are submitted ~~posted~~

by at least one <u>of a plurality of users to at least two experts on the predetermined subject</u>

<u>matter, the questions being submitted</u> ~~user to at least one of a plurality of experts~~ via <u>one of</u>

<u>a plurality of</u> ~~at least one~~ client interfaces ~~interface~~, <u>each of</u> the <u>plurality of</u> client <u>interfaces</u>

~~interface~~ being identified to the users as a forum on <u>the</u> [[a]] predetermined subject matter

<u>of the forum, and</u> the forum presenting at <u>the</u> least two experts <u>as experts</u> on the

corresponding subject matter ~~and at least one of the questions being routed to the one of the~~

~~experts based on a routing request from one of the users~~, the method comprising <u>the steps</u>

<u>of</u>:

the server receiving a question submitted by one of the plurality of users via one

<u>of the plurality of client interfaces identified as a forum;</u>

the server <u>routing</u> ~~displaying~~ the <u>submitted</u> question <u>for presentation to</u> ~~for~~

~~access by~~ the <u>one</u> expert<u>;</u>

<u>the server presenting the question to the one expert</u> via <u>one of</u> a <u>plurality of</u>

personal expert <u>interfaces</u> ~~interface~~, ~~the~~ <u>each</u> personal expert interface being <u>uniquely</u>

<u>associated with</u> ~~unique to the~~ <u>one of the at least two experts and in communication with the</u>

<u>server</u> ~~expert,and including questions grouped with other questions for the expert to answer~~

~~based on one of a routing request from one of the users and a routing request from another~~

~~one of the experts~~; and

the server receiving a command ~~from the expert~~ <u>via the personal expert</u>

<u>interface of the one expert</u> ~~in response to the question~~, the <u>received</u> command <u>including</u>

~~comprising a first response and a second response, the first response being~~ an instruction

<u>for the server</u> to route ~~an answer to the question and the second response being one of an~~

~~instruction to (a) route~~ the question to another one of the <u>at least two</u> experts <u>via a personal</u>

<u>expert interface of the other expert</u> ~~as a referral, (b) post a supplemental answer to the~~

~~question and (c) post the answer.~~

177. (currently amended) The method of claim 176 <u>wherein the received</u>

<u>command further includes an answer to the question and a second</u> ~~further comprising the~~

~~question being assigned by subject matter to a plurality of fora having related subject~~ ~~matter and the first response further comprising an~~ instruction to post the answer to one of (a) a ~~the~~ source <u>forum, the source forum being identified with the one client interface</u> from which the question <u>was submitted</u>, (b) <u>at least one</u> one of the plurality of <u>forums</u> ~~fora~~ other than the source forum, (c) a plurality of <u>forums</u> ~~fora~~ including the source forum, (d) a plurality of <u>forums</u> ~~fora~~ excluding the source forum and (e) ~~all of the fora~~ <u>forums identified</u> <u>with each of the plurality of client interfaces</u>.

178. (previously presented) The method of claim 177 wherein when the answer is posted to a plurality of <u>forums</u> ~~fora~~, the posting occurs in at least two <u>forums</u> ~~fora~~ at substantially the same time.

179. - 185. (canceled)

186. (currently amended) The method of claim 176<u>, further comprising the</u> <u>steps of:</u>

<u>the server receiving a second question via another one of the plurality of client</u> <u>interfaces identified as another forum; and</u>

<u>the server routing the second question</u> ~~wherein at least two of the questions are~~ ~~further routed~~ to the <u>one</u> expert ~~from at least two different fora~~.

187. - 189. (canceled)

190. (currently amended) The method of claim 176 wherein <u>the received</u> <u>command includes an answer to the question, and the routing instruction further instructs</u> <u>that the answer be routed together with the question to the other expert, thereby requesting</u> <u>a peer review by the other expert of the answer provided by the one expert</u> ~~posting a~~ ~~supplemental answer to the question,~~<u>further comprises the server posting the supplemental</u> ~~answer to the forum.~~

191. (canceled)

192. (currently amended) The method of claim 176 further <u>comprising the step of</u> the server receiving a <u>second command from the other expert, the second command including at least one answer to the question, the one answer being provided by the one expert, by the other expert, or by both experts</u> ~~response to the question from another of the experts to whom the question was referred, the response being providing the first response and the second~~.

193. (currently amended) The method of claim 192 wherein the answer <u>from the other expert</u> is <u>posted</u> ~~published~~ to at least one web page ~~accessible to the at least~~ <u>of the</u> one <u>client interface</u> ~~user after one of the first response and the second response~~.

194. (currently amended) A method executed by a server for providing answers from ~~at least one~~ <u>an</u> expert ~~to at least two questions posed by a plurality of users, the users communicating with the server~~ via at least two client interfaces, each of the <u>at least two</u> client interfaces identified to ~~the~~ users as a forum on a predetermined subject matter <u>of the forum</u>, whereby <u>one or more users</u> ~~a user~~ may choose to visit a forum, ~~and each forum presenting the expert as an expert in the subject matter of the forum,~~ the expert being presented simultaneously in <u>each of the</u> at least two <u>of the</u> <u>forums</u> ~~fora~~, the method comprising <u>the steps of</u>:

   receiving at the server at least <u>two questions, one of the at least two questions being submitted</u> ~~one user-submitted question~~ via each of the at least two <u>forums</u> ~~fora~~ in which the expert <u>is simultaneously presented</u> ~~serves, whereby the expert receives at least two questions;~~

routing the at least two questions to the expert <u>via the server</u> ~~based on a routing request for each question from one of (a) the user who submitted the question, and (b) another expert~~;

presenting the at least two questions to the expert <u>by means of</u> ~~via~~ a personal expert interface, wherein the personal expert interface is <u>uniquely associated with</u> ~~unique to~~ the expert ~~and includes the at least two questions grouped as part of a set of questions~~,

receiving <u>at least two commands at the server</u> ~~a command~~ via the personal expert interface <u>of the expert</u> ~~from the expert in response to each of the at least two questions individually~~, wherein <u>a first one of the at least two commands includes a first answer to a first one of the questions submitted from one of the at least two forums and a first instruction instructing the server to post the first answer, and the second one of the at least two commands includes a second answer to a second one of the questions submitted from another one of the at least two forums and a second instruction instructing the server to post the second answer</u>~~, the command for comprises responding to the question, whereby the expert provides at least two commands; and~~

~~executing each of the at least two commands from the expert.~~

195.-201. (canceled)

202. (currently amended) The method of claim <u>194</u> [[201]] wherein the ~~command further comprises an instruction~~ <u>first and second instructions instruct the server</u> ~~command further comprises an instruction~~ to <u>respectively</u> post the <u>first and second answers</u> ~~answer to each question~~ <u>each</u> to one of <u>(a)</u> ~~(i)~~ ~~the~~<u>a</u> source <u>forum, the source forum being</u> identified with the forum from which the question ~~derived~~ <u>was submitted and</u> ~~(ii)~~ at least one of the <u>at least two</u> ~~plurality of~~ forums ~~for~~<u>a</u> other than the source forum, ~~(iii) a plurality of fora including the source forum, (iv)~~ <u>(b)</u> <u>two or more of the at least two</u> ~~a plurality of~~

forums ~~fora~~ excluding the source forum, or ~~and~~ (c) ~~(v)~~ ~~all~~ each of the <u>at least two forums</u> ~~fora~~.

203. (currently amended) The method of claim 202 wherein when <u>either of</u> the <u>first or second answers</u> ~~answer~~ is posted to <u>two or more of the at least two</u> ~~a plurality of~~ forums ~~fora~~, the posting occurs in <u>the two</u> ~~at least two~~ <u>forums</u> ~~fora~~ at substantially the same time.

204. - 215 (canceled)

216. (new) A method, executed by a server, for an expert to provide answers to questions presented by a plurality of users, the users communicating with the server via a plurality of client interfaces, each of the client interfaces being identified to the users as a forum on a predetermined subject matter of the forum, the forum enabling users to present questions and to view questions and answers relating to the predetermined subject matter of the forum, the method comprising the steps of:

the server generating at least two forums;

the server receiving a question presented by a user accessing a first one of the at least two forums;

the server posting the question in a location on the server accessible to the expert;

the server presenting the question to the expert via a personal expert interface uniquely associated with the expert, and on which the question is displayed for the expert to answer;

receiving at the server a command via the personal expert interface from the expert in response to the question, wherein the command includes an answer for responding to the question and an instruction, wherein the instruction instructs the server to post the answer to the first forum accessed by the user to present the question and to at

least a second one of the at least two forums, at which the question was not presented by the user.

217. (new) The method of claim 192, wherein the second command further includes an instruction to post the at least one answer to one of (a) a source forum, the source forum being identified with the one client interface, (b) at least one of the plurality of forums other than the source forum, (c) a plurality of forums including the source forum, (d) a plurality of forums excluding the source forum and (e) forums identified with each of the plurality of client interfaces.

218. (new) The method of claim 217, wherein the at least one answer is posted to a plurality of forums, and the posting occurs in at least two forums at substantially the same time.

219. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein the second grouping presents questions routed by the server to each of the plurality of experts, the plurality of experts comprising a panel of experts serving at least one of the plurality of forums, the second grouping of questions including one or more questions posted by one or more of the plurality of users in the at least one forum, the one or more questions including: (a) questions directed to the panel of experts by the one or more users, and (b) questions posted to the at least one forum by the one or more users without expert designation.

220. (new) The system of claim 98 wherein the expert is presented in one of the forums as one of a plurality of experts comprising a panel of experts, wherein the question is received by the question receiving component from the client interface of the one forum without direction by the user to any of the plurality of experts comprising the panel, and wherein said routing component is configured to route the received question to each of the plurality of experts in the panel of experts.